

CF 162
Papers pleasePRIME MINISTERCONSERVATION LUNCH ON 25 NOVEMBER

You asked that the draft letter to those coming to this lunch should be looked at again to ensure that urban environmental issues would be covered in the discussion. You were also concerned that 13 was too large a group to get round the table in the small dining room.

A revised draft letter, for my signature, is attached. It flags up specifically the urban environmental point, and mentions in particular the question of derelict and unused land and buildings. The whole question of the urban environment has of course been raised to a much higher profile following the Handsworth, Brixton and Tottenham riots and you are hoping to discuss inner cities with colleagues at a working breakfast before too long. So you will not I think wish to dwell too much on urban matters at this conservation lunch where the discussion would naturally focus rather on wildlife and countryside conservation.

I had a word both with Michael Alison and Hartley Booth, and Michael has kindly agreed to step down. A revised list of those coming to lunch is attached. The total number will now come to 12.

Mark Addison

Mark Addison21 October 1985

MJ2BHH



10 DOWNING STREET

Sent to : Barber
Wilkinson
Blakenham
Branton
Burke
Norman

From the Private Secretary

28 October 1985

The Prime Minister is glad that you will be able to attend the small informal lunch here at No.10 on Monday 25 November, to discuss current conservation issues. I now enclose a formal invitation, a list of those attending, and an admit card which you should bring with you.

The Prime Minister hopes the lunch will provide an informal opportunity to discuss wildlife and countryside conservation. There will be no set agenda, but the Prime Minister envisages that the discussion will cover at least some of the following topics:-

- What are the key issues in UK environment policy? Does Government policy adequately address these main issues e.g. air pollution, radioactive waste disposal?
- Do we have the right powers over land use? Is the conservation/farming/development balance right?
- What is, or should be, the role of the voluntary sector in conservation? Is it likely to change? Are the Government's own agencies organised correctly? What scope is there for greater involvement, for example, by the Manpower Services Commission?
- What are the key issues so far as the urban environment is concerned? Why is there apparently so much unused land and why are there so many derelict buildings in our towns and cities? How can the improvement of the urban environment best be tackled?

If you have in mind any specific points which you would like to raise at the lunch, it would be very helpful if you could let me know of them as soon as possible.

The Prime Minister is looking forward to seeing you on 25 November.

(Mark Addison)



bc HB.
cc DO EC ^{Wigmore}
^{Reinhold}

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

28 October 1985

CONSERVATION LUNCH: 25 NOVEMBER

I am now able to enclose a formal invitation and admit card for this forthcoming lunch. I also enclose a copy of the letter I have sent those who have been invited to the lunch from outside government, together with a full list of all those coming.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Private Secretaries to other Ministers in your Department who will also be present at the lunch, together with their formal invitation and admit cards.

(Mark Addison)

Robin Young, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

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